

**Community-Based Address Canvassing for 2020 Census**

The decennial census is mandated by the U.S. Constitution and used to determine political representation and allocate hundreds of billions of dollars in federal funding to states and localities. It is in the best interest of Los Angeles County (County) and its residents to count everyone in the 2020 Census.

The State of California, and particularly Los Angeles County, faces significant challenges in counting diverse ethnic and racial populations, low-income residents, and other Hard-to-Survey (HTS) populations. Data from the 2010 Census indicates that California is the hardest-to-count state in the nation and that Los Angeles County is the hardest-to-count county nationwide. An accurate count in Los Angeles County has become even more challenging due to the recent decision on March 26, 2018 by the U.S. Secretary of Commerce to include a question on citizenship on the 2020 Census.

To assist the Census Bureau in updating its Master Address File for the 2020 Census, the County is currently conducting the Local Update of Census Addresses

**MOTION**

SOLIS \_\_\_\_\_

RIDLEY-THOMAS \_\_\_\_\_

HAHN \_\_\_\_\_

BARGER \_\_\_\_\_

KUEHL \_\_\_\_\_

(LUCA) operation. The LUCA process is the only opportunity offered to local governments (counties and cities) to review and comment on the Census Bureau's residential address list prior to the 2020 Census. The County recognizes the importance of an accurate address list and has undertaken an effort to count unconventional housing that is not normally accounted for in the Census Bureau's mailing list. It has been estimated that each missing address can result in a loss of \$60,000 of federal funding over a period of ten years.

The County Chief Executive Officer (CEO), in partnership with the Internal Services Department and the Office of Immigrant Affairs, has initiated a community-based address-canvassing program that targets unconventional and non-standard address dwelling units. Support from community-based organizations is essential to the success of this effort and may require that the County provide a modest stipend to those CBOs that enlist staff and volunteers to assist with the County's LUCA outreach. The CBOs know the neighborhoods that are typically hard-to-survey and contain the greatest number of unconventional addresses.

The County has much at stake in relation to the 2020 Census. The Board of Supervisors (Board) has a responsibility to advocate for an accurate and complete census that counts every County resident, regardless of immigration status, to ensure fair elected representation and an equitable distribution of resources and funding.

#### **I THEREFORE MOVE THAT THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS**

1. Direct the CEO to enter into an agreement with a designated non-profit, utilizing a sole-source justification, if warranted, to facilitate funding to community-based

organizations and assist the County with its LUCA operation and community-based address canvassing program for the 2020 Census;

2. Direct the CEO to continue to partner with local non-profits and community-based organizations as part of the 2020 Census and develop strategies that will effectively leverage the resources of these organizations and ensure a successful 2020 Census for Los Angeles County; and to report back to the Board with recommendations as part of the FY 2018-19 Supplemental Budget.

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HLS: jv